

d.) Remarks

In the present amendment claims 17 and 28 have been corrected to remove the informalities noted in the Action.

In addition, claim 28 has been amended to define the recited invention over the reference cited in rejecting this claim; that is, the MS Paint description. Claim 28 now specifies that the user assigns at least one functional onscreen element to a respective color, whereby the screen display portrays the functional element when the DRT line is drawn onscreen. In contrast, in the MS Paint routine the result of drawing a line onscreen is merely a line which has no function other than its appearance. As described in the specification (p. 16, lines 12-20), the functional element is a device that may be operated by any means to achieve some desired result. Clearly, a line drawn in MS Paint cannot be 'operated' in the sense that word is used and defined in the present invention. Therefore it is asserted that claim 28 now defines the invention over the cited reference, and is allowable. Likewise, claims 29 and 31, which depend from claim 28, are also allowable.

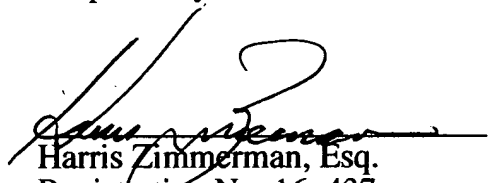
Claim 33, which also stands rejected under §102(b) over the MS Paint reference, has been amended to state that the user assigns at least one representational onscreen element to one of the first plurality of colors. The concept that the onscreen element represents some other element is found on pages 15 and 36 of the specification, and in original claims 26 and 32. This concept is entirely lacking in the MS Paint system, in which a drawn line is nothing more than a drawn line. (Note that the concept of representing some other element

encompasses elements that may not be functional objects as covered in independent claim 28; for example, a text portion that the user wishes to recall.) Given the fact that MS Paint cannot accomplish this function, it is asserted that claim 33 is now allowable over the art. Likewise, claims 34 and 39, which depend from claim 33, are now also allowable.

No other patentability issues remain to be resolved.

All claims now presented are submitted in the belief that they are allowable over the prior art, and that this application in condition for issuance. Action toward that end is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,


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